

# Survey Summary

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## Background

In collaboration with PlaceWorks, the Placer County Sustainability Plan team prepared an online survey. The goal of this survey was to (1) understand the current state of Placer County residents' feelings towards climate change and climate action, and (2) understand what types of emissions reduction strategies would be most receptive to Placer County residents.

The survey was 34 questions long and began with a short written introduction to the Placer County Sustainability Plan and the related survey.

The survey questions were converted to an interactive Survey Gizmo form through the Placer County PIO team. The link was posted and available to the public for 2 weeks, from 5/7/2018 – 5/21/2018.

## Outreach



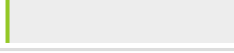
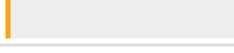
The survey link was publicly posted on the Sustain Placer webpage (<http://www.placer.ca.gov/sustainplacer>). It was also emailed to the various Sustainability Plan contact lists (i.e. the list of stakeholders and other interested parties that were invited to the first round of public workshops, the list of workshop attendees that noted they would like to be added to the distribution list, and the Placer County Sustainability Plan Newsletter group) on 5/7/2018. In total, the survey link was sent to over 3,000 emails.

## Results

### Demographics

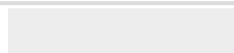
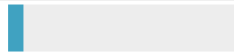
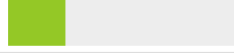

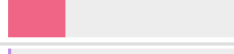
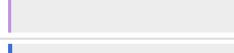
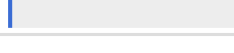
#### Location

In total, we received 161 complete survey responses and 57 incomplete. By far, the majority of responses came from the 95603 area code, which generally includes the Auburn and North Auburn communities. Our second largest group of respondents came from the 95765 area code, which is an area in Rocklin. The majority of respondents (87.6%) also owned their place of residence.

Do you own or rent your place of residence?			
Value	Percent		Count
I own	87.6%		141
I rent	8.1%		13
N/A	1.9%		3
Prefer not to answer	2.5%		4
Totals			161



## Age

About 40% of survey respondents were between the ages of 51-65, and 90% of respondents were between the ages of 36-80. Only 1 respondent was under the age of 18.



What is your age?			
Value	Percent		Count
<18	0.6%		1
18-35	6.2%		10
36-50	24.2%		39
51-65	41.6%		67
66-80	24.2%		39
>80	1.2%		2
Prefer not to answer	1.9%		3
Totals			161

## Business-Owners

26% of respondents said that someone in their household owns a non-agricultural business, while only 5.6% said someone in their household owns a farm/agricultural business in Placer County.

Does anyone in your household own a business (not including agriculture) in Placer County?			
Value	Percent		Count
Yes	26.1%		42
No	73.9%		119
Totals			161

Does anyone in your household own a farm/agricultural business in Placer County?			
Value	Percent		Count
Yes	5.6%		9
No	93.2%		150
Totals			161


## Risk Perceptions

### Current Knowledge









The majority of survey respondents (67.1%) said yes, they do feel aware of the natural hazards that are present in Placer County. The other 33% were either not sure or responded that they did not feel aware. Additionally, nearly half of respondents (47.2%) said that they did not receive or find any information on risks related to natural hazards before selecting their current home. Another 49.1% did receive information, but this information only affected 28% of respondents' choices about their current home.

Over half of the survey respondents (55.1%) have personally been affected by drought. Tree mortality comes in as a close second (43.7%), followed by extreme heat (31.7%) and wildfire (27.9%). A smaller percentage were affected by flooding (10.8%) and/or landslides (3.2%). 23.4% of respondents said they have not been personally affected by any natural hazards. 10.8% chose "Other" as an option, but only 17 respondents wrote in a response. Among these, extreme winter conditions came high on the list. Air quality issues were also raised because of dusty or smoky conditions, ozone, and landfill odor. Government regulation was also mentioned as a natural hazard.

#### When selecting your current home, did you receive information about the risk of natural hazards and the effects that these hazards may have?

Value	Percent		Count
I received information about risks, and this affected where I live	21.1%		34
I received information about risks, but it did not affect where I live	28.0%		45
I did not receive or find information about risks	47.2%		76
Prefer not to answer	3.7%		6
Totals			161

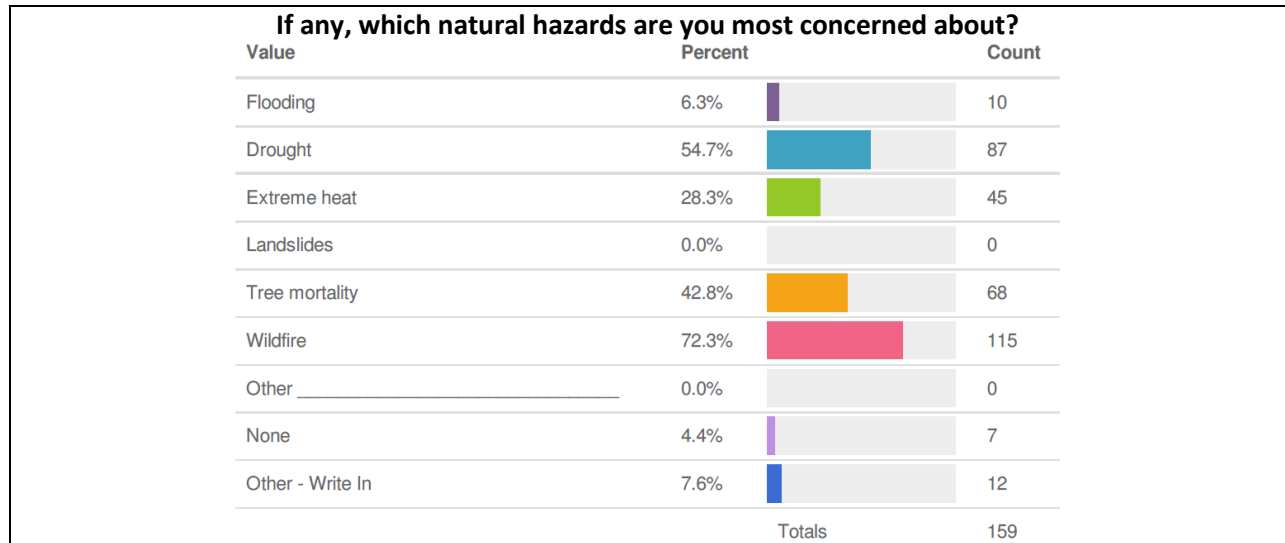
#### If any, which natural hazards have personally affected you in Placer County?

Value	Percent		Count
Flooding	10.8%		17
Drought	55.1%		87
Extreme heat	31.7%		50
Landslides	3.2%		5
Tree mortality	43.7%		69
Wildfire	27.9%		44
Other _____	0.0%		0
Other - Write In	10.8%		17
None	23.4%		37
Totals			158

## Current Concerns

The majority of respondents listed wildfire (72.3%), drought (54.7%), and tree mortality (42.8%) as their top natural hazards of concern. Extreme heat came in fourth (28.3%), followed by flooding (6.3%). This loosely correlates with what respondents said they had been affected by.

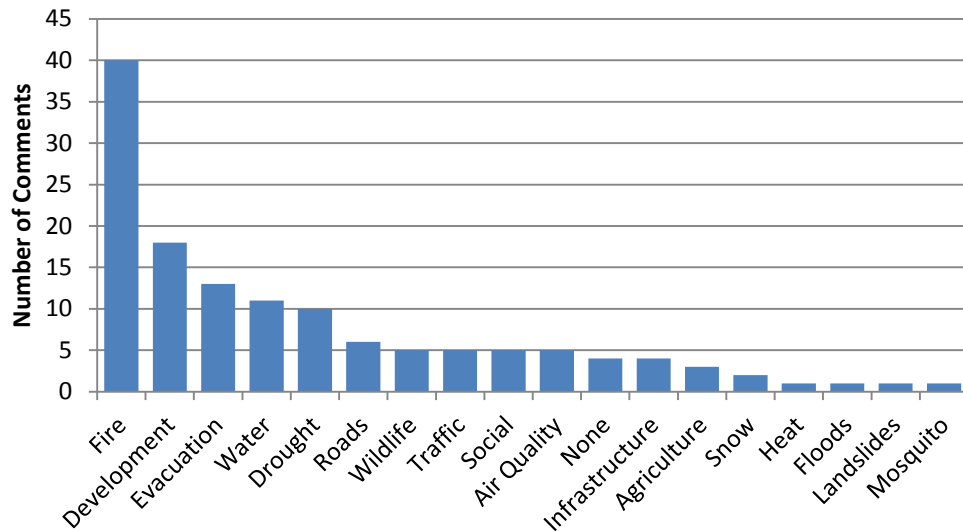
Among the 7.5% of respondents that chose the “Other” option, only 12 chose to elaborate. Among these, air quality was again a concern, along with water storage for drought situations. Politicians and government overreach were again mentioned as a natural hazard of concern.



## Physical Vulnerability

After a short explanation of physical vulnerability, survey respondents were asked if there were any factors they thought would be important to consider when examining Placer’s vulnerability. 119 respondents chose to answer this question. Each of the written responses was given a tag(s) to help organize answers into a meaningful summary.

**Physical vulnerability refers to the idea that some community resources (such as forests, local businesses, roads, etc.) may face greater harm than others when extreme weather events occur. Are there any factors you think would be important to consider when examining the physical vulnerability of Placer County?**



Tag	Example of Comments	Summary
<b>Agriculture</b>	<p>"How are our water resources affected, what are the implications for people, habitat, special status species, etc.? How are agricultural resources affected, what are the implications for food security?"</p> <p>"Supporting a sustainable agricultural landscape and open space."</p>	Overall support for sustainable agriculture and food security.
<b>Air Quality</b>	<p>"aircraft pollution"</p> <p>"forests and air quality...smoky burns by neighbors that do not know how to burn"</p> <p>"smoker carelessness with cigarettes...excessive driving on hot days (air quality)"</p>	Most air quality concerns are connected to fire concerns, whether from indoor fire places, legal burn days, or wildfires.
<b>Development</b>	<p>"Growth of residences causing unplanned demand on resources. Changes to master development plans to increase density."</p> <p>"Limitations of allowing development in highest risk areas."</p> <p>"Overcrowding and over building"</p>	Responses were generally negative towards more development or high-density development. Developing only in lower-risk areas as a strategy was also brought up.
<b>Drought</b>	<p>"Price fluctuations due to drought, and fresh food supplies, water limitations, restrictions on resources..."</p> <p>"drought and wildfire"</p> <p>"Heat, drought, tree mortality"</p>	Although drought was brought up repeatedly, it was generally lumped in with other factors (see example comments) with little to no explanation.
<b>Evacuation</b>	"a hazardous spill either on the freeway or RR"	Having emergency exit or

	tracks!!! some rural areas need an emergency evacuation plan in place.” “Emergency exit plans in the case of a wildfire.” “rural areas where seniors, disabled and families with young children live. Evacuation/communication to these parties.”	evacuation plans ready for rural communities, disabled, and elderly was a popular concern. This was also brought up in tandem with tourist/traffic concerns and limited roadways/routes to safety.
<b>Fire</b>	“Proximity of homes and businesses to open space at risk of wildfire.” “wildfire and urban/wildland interface - Sonoma County's fires prove that that interface is larger than previously thought” “Funding of fire personnel and to keep fire stations open (don't consolidate). Needed resource. Fund them.”	Comments generally focused either on concerns regarding fuel reduction/tree mortality or the urban-rural interface (specifically in regards to public health—smoke, funding for fire fighters—and infrastructure.
<b>Floods</b>	“Roads, floods”	
<b>Heat</b>	“Heat, drought, tree mortality” “access to evacuation sites or cooling centers”	
<b>Infrastructure</b>	“high density growth without proper infrastructure to mitigate impacts when extreme weather events occur (water shortages, erosion in flooding, destruction of habitats due to improper drainage in new developments, removal of heritage trees creating unnatural grades)” “Population growth. Overgrown forests. Aging infrastructure.” “Wildlife, infrastructure”	Most concerns about either aging infrastructure or not building proper safety infrastructure in vulnerable areas.
<b>Wildlife</b>	“Invasive species, particularly in rural areas and along roadsides” “Managing open spaces to promote wildlife but reduce risk of wildfires”	Concerns for how we’re protecting wildlife from natural disasters and pollution.
<b>Landslides</b>	“Tree mortality, wildfire, landslides.”	
<b>Mosquitos</b>	“Fire hazards, lack of water to the natural areas, mosquito containment in rural areas”	
<b>None</b>		
<b>Roads</b>	“the roads are getting congested and are not capable of handling all the development in my region of the county.” “Forests, roads (specifically emergency routes)”	Concerns for aging roadways, specifically those unable to handle evacuations.
<b>Snow</b>	“snow removal and fire control” “snow, drought, fires”	
<b>Social</b>	“income levels of the elderly and disabled” “vulnerability of an area may also be largely impacted by social vulnerabilities low income areas are less likely to bounce back after an event”	These comments seemed more like social vulnerability issues, mostly concerning income levels

	"Status as sanctuary county put many people at risk"	
<b>Traffic</b>	<p>"Seasonal traffic in Tahoe and visitors that may not know where to go for information if there was an emergency."</p> <p>"the roads are getting congested and are not capable of handling all the development in my region of the county."</p> <p>"The impacts of the visitor to resources in Lake Tahoe. Which increase the strain on resources and infrastructure."</p>	Specific to the Tahoe area. Concerns about traffic in evacuation situations and the effects on roads/infrastructure.
<b>Water</b>	<p>"The availability of water"</p> <p>"Climate change, water supply"</p> <p>"smoker carelessness with cigarettes, excessive water use by residents, excessive driving on hot days (air quality)"</p>	General concern about having a large enough water supply.

### Ideas for how the county can adapt?

<b>General Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better communication (PSAs, internet messaging, text phone alerts, early-warning sirens)</li> <li>• We don't have extreme weather</li> <li>• Stop building in places where there's extreme weather (floodplains, forests)</li> <li>• Widen road shoulders going in/out of Tahoe basin (for emergency evacuations)</li> <li>• Less suburban sprawl</li> <li>• Work with local organizations to support displaced wildlife after an event</li> </ul>
<b>Fire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• **Controlled burns**</li> <li>• Urban-Rural interface</li> <li>• Brush thinning (especially goats)</li> <li>• Enforce fire breaks / defensible space requirements</li> <li>• Remove dead/sick trees – use as biofuel, help homeowners with cost</li> <li>• Change building code – allow for green fireproof products</li> <li>• Incentivize/educate landowners about fire resistant plants</li> </ul>
<b>Extreme Heat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light pavement</li> <li>• Subsidies for AC retrofits</li> </ul>
<b>Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulations on pesticides</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convert government vehicles to EVs</li> <li>• More commuter transit options – Truckee/Auburn/Sacramento</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use non-potable water for landscaping</li> </ul>

### Social Vulnerability

After a short explanation of social vulnerability, survey respondents were asked if there were any factors they thought would be important to consider when examining Placer's vulnerability.

<b>General Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oppose a Sanctuary County</li> <li>• Tourists (not familiar with evacuation processes, safe spaces, etc.)</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education level</li> <li>• Aging infrastructure</li> <li>• Mobile homes</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warning systems</li> <li>• Timely</li> <li>• Rural areas need internet access</li> </ul>
<b>Age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerability to heat (elderly/children)</li> <li>• Less mobility</li> <li>• Concerns about evacuation in case of fire</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asthma/allergies</li> <li>• Disabled persons</li> <li>• Provide public cooling centers when hot</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better roads</li> <li>• Traffic</li> </ul>
<b>Socioeconomics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low income families (extreme heat, home insurance)</li> <li>• Homeless residents (extreme heat) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduce current population</li> <li>○ Provide safety nets for low-income residents that lose housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Need more affordable housing</li> <li>• Food prices</li> </ul>
<b>Geography</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those living on hillsides/on lots of land</li> <li>• Those living in wildland-urban interface</li> <li>• Rural areas without connection to transportation, emergency services</li> <li>• Those living in unincorporated Placer (not enough emergency responders)</li> </ul>

### Ideas for how the county can adapt?

<b>General Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check-ins/assistance for vulnerable folks (elderly, county assistance, living alone, etc.) like snow removal, help during a disaster, backup generators...</li> <li>• All listed ideas are good (alternate communication methods, communication in different languages, incentives/financing for home weatherproofing tools)</li> <li>• More police in neighborhoods</li> <li>• Partner with non-profits that work with vulnerable populations (meals on wheels, food banks, local churches...)</li> <li>• Partner with public transit / ride-sharing programs for evacuation situations</li> </ul>
<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affordable housing</li> <li>• Weatherproofing funds</li> <li>• Assistance for adaptation measures (flood resistance, defensible space)</li> <li>• Create evacuation/cooling shelters</li> <li>• Reduce insurance costs</li> <li>• Don't allow more construction into woodlands</li> <li>• Adaptable housing (incentives to live outside flood plain, fire safe construction)</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incentives for neighbors to get to know each other</li> <li>• Bilingual staff</li> <li>• Use multiple communication channels (text alerts, informational video)</li> <li>• Ensure adequate phone/internet service</li> </ul>


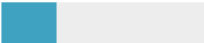
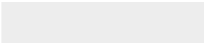

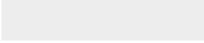


<b>Electricity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce risks of blackouts</li> <li>• Incentives for solar</li> </ul>
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## Policy Support

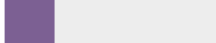

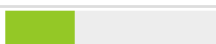
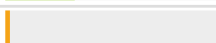
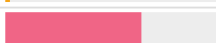

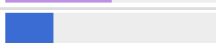
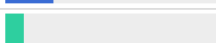
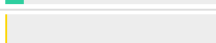
### How important is the issue of natural resource conservation to you?

The overwhelming majority of survey respondents said that natural resource conservation was extremely or moderately important.

Value	Percent		Count
Extremely important	70.8%		114
Moderately important	26.7%		43
Not important	0.6%		1
No opinion	1.2%		2
Prefer not to answer	0.6%		1
Totals			161

### Which of the following are reasons you think Placer should create a Sustainability Plan?

Top three answers were to improve the protection of natural resources, to reduce the impacts of climate change, and to keep our community safe from extreme weather events. Write-in answers included protection of wildlife, concerns about fire insurance pricing, “all of the above”, development, and concerns about wasting tax money on the Sustainability Plan project.

Value	Percent		Count
To save money and help the local economy	23.8%		38
To keep our community safe from extreme weather events	48.1%		77
To improve public health in our communities	33.1%		53
To comply with state laws	2.5%		4
To improve the protection of natural resources	64.4%		103
To reduce the impacts of climate change	50.0%		80
To protect agriculture	23.1%		37
Other - Write In	8.8%		14
None	1.3%		2
Totals			160

### How helpful do you think these types of policies would be in Placer County?

The policy rated most helpful was more protection for agriculture, open space and natural resources. Second were improvements to transit/transportation infrastructure. Helpfulness ratings for the other options were all about the same.



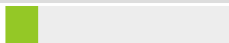
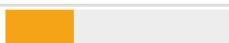
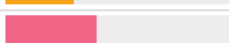

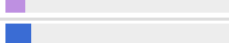
Write-in responses included:

Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biking infrastructure</li> <li>• Roads</li> <li>• Consolidate transit system</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to donate used goods</li> </ul>
Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit development / less sprawl</li> <li>• Adaptable housing</li> <li>• Stronger mitigation policies (onsite mitigation, wetlands)</li> </ul>
Emergency response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve response times</li> </ul>

### Who do you think should be most responsible for reducing the risks and effects of natural hazards?

Most responses were local government and state government, closely followed by property owners.

Write-in responses generally shared that everyone needs to play a role, not just one party.

Value	Percent		Count
Local government	54.4%		87
State government	53.1%		85
Federal government	14.4%		23
Individuals	30.0%		48
Property owners	40.6%		65
Businesses	8.8%		14
Other - Write In	11.9%		19
Totals			160

### In your opinion, what are the most important benefits of sustainability policies?

Top responses were to conserve resources, reduce impacts of climate change, and protect community's way of life. Write-in responses included concerns about more regulations coming from the government and questioned the validity of the survey.

Value	Percent	Count
Save money	13.8%	22
Conserve resources	67.3%	107
Improve public health	33.3%	53
Enhance local economy	15.7%	25
Reduce the impacts of climate change	51.6%	82
Promote equity	5.0%	8
Protect community's way of life	42.1%	67
Other - Write In	10.1%	16
Totals		159

### Willingness to Pay

Overall, survey respondents were willing to pay a little more if it meant an improvement in the local economy, local nature, or community health. However, a significant percentage responded that they would not be willing to pay more, especially in the case of community health.

#### Are you willing to pay more for goods and services if there is an improvement to the local economy?

Value	Percent	Count
Yes, a lot more	11.8%	19
Yes, a little more	50.9%	82
No	20.5%	33
Not sure	16.2%	26
Prefer not to answer	0.6%	1
Totals		161

#### Are you willing to pay more for goods and services if there is an improvement in local nature?

Value	Percent	Count
Yes, a lot more	25.5%	41
Yes, a little more	47.8%	77
No	18.0%	29
Not sure	8.7%	14
Prefer not to answer	0.0%	0
Totals		161

#### Are you willing to pay more for goods and services if there is an improvement in community health?

Value	Percent	Count
Yes, a lot more	18.0%	29
Yes, a little more	45.3%	73
No	23.0%	37
Not sure	13.7%	22
Prefer not to answer	0.0%	0
Totals		161

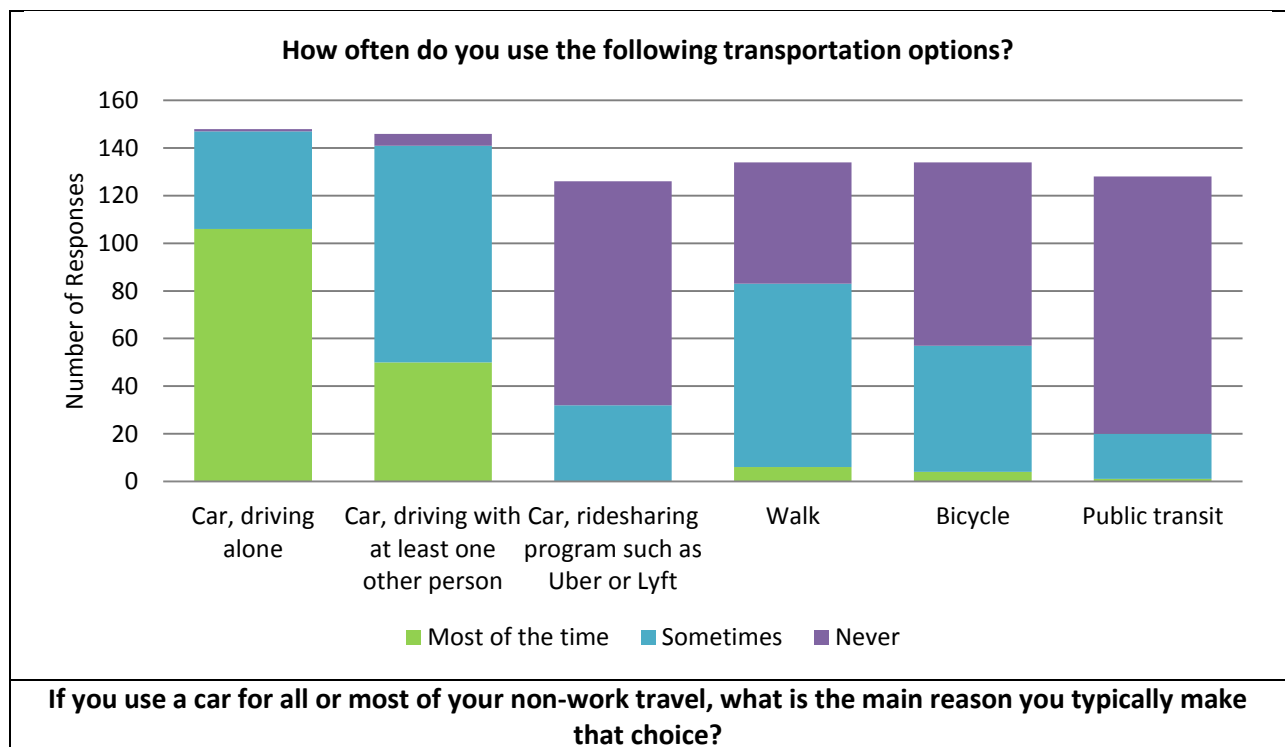
## Transportation Strategies

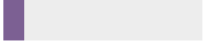
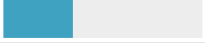
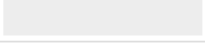
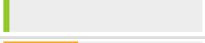
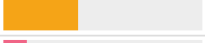
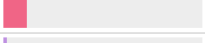
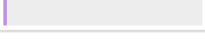
### How often do you typically use the following methods to travel to your non-work destinations?

Most respondents generally drive alone to non-work destinations, sometimes carpool or walk, and never use public transit or a rideshare program.

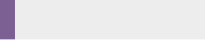
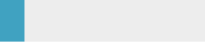
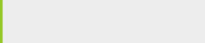
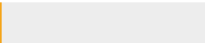
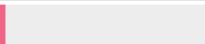
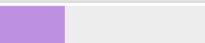

Respondents that mainly drive to their non-work destinations generally do so because there are no available alternatives or for convenience. Write-in answers included that transit is not frequent enough, they don't have the option where they live, or the distance travelled is too long.

Respondents that don't mainly drive to their non-work destinations generally do so because it's convenient, healthier, or more environmentally-friendly.



Value	Percent		Count
Time	10.6%		17
Convenience	34.8%		56
Cost	0.0%		0
Safety	3.1%		5
No available alternatives	37.9%		61
Other - Write In	11.8%		19
Prefer not to answer	1.9%		3
Totals			161

**If you do not use a car for all or most of your non-work travel, what is the main reason you typically make that choice?**

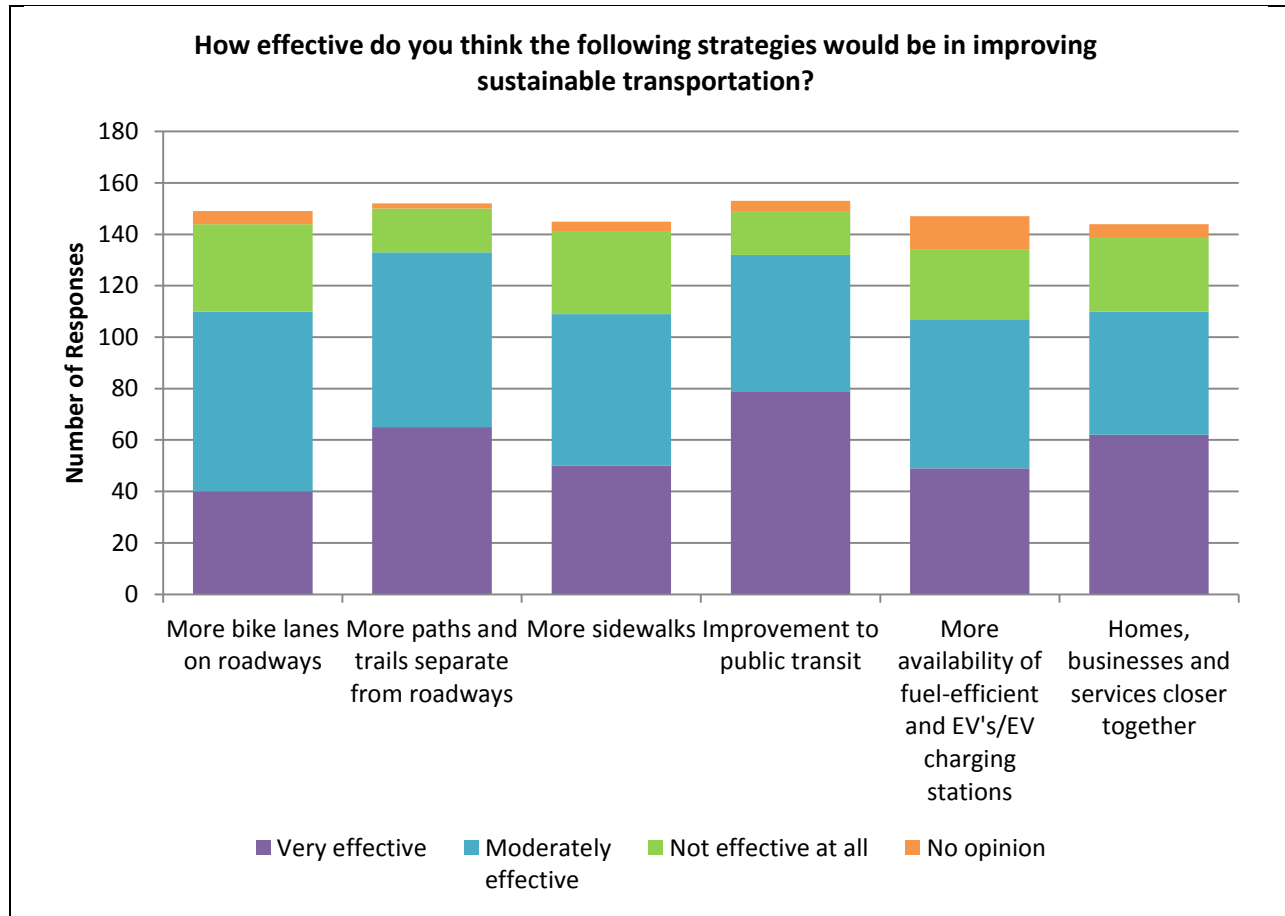
Value	Percent		Count
Time	6.8%		11
Convenience	11.8%		19
Cost	1.9%		3
Safety	1.2%		2
No access to a vehicle	3.1%		5
Other - Write In	30.4%		49
Prefer not to answer	44.7%		72
Totals			161

### How effective do you think the following strategies would be in improving sustainable transportation?

Most respondents said that improvement to public transit would be the most effective strategy, followed by more paths and trails separate from the roadway. More bike lanes on roadways had the highest percentage of respondents reply “not effective at all” and “moderately effective”.

Write-in responses included:

- More bike lanes
- Light rail
- More frequent / cheaper transit options
- Smoother transit changes (buses with bike racks)
- Incentives for carpoolers (discount lift tickets?)
- Technology
  - Solar-powered EV chargers
  - Timed lights



## Energy Efficiency Strategies

### If any, which energy upgrades have you already made to your home?

The most common energy efficiency upgrade already made among survey responders was efficient appliances, followed by efficient heating/cooling systems.

Write-in responses included:

- EV charging equipment
- Energy efficient light bulbs
- Home is a new home that is already efficient
- Whole house fans
- Thermostat setbacks



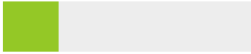


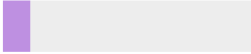
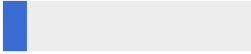
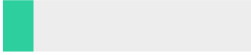
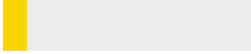
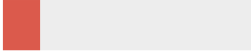
Value	Percent		Count
Renewable energy (solar panels, etc.)	28.2%		44
Efficient heating/cooling system	50.0%		78
Efficient water heater	48.1%		75
Efficient appliances (e.g. washer, dryer, refrigerator)	72.4%		113
New windows	37.2%		58
New doors	19.2%		30
Sealing air leaks in walls, windows, etc.	39.7%		62
Other - Write In	14.7%		23
Wall, roof and/or floor insulation	41.0%		64
None	9.0%		14
Totals			156

### Which energy upgrades would you most like to make to your home?

By far, the most sought after EE upgrade is renewable energy installation. This was followed by having an efficient heating/cooling system.

Write-in responses included:

- Shade trees
- Whole house fan
- Gray water capture
- Skylights
- Solar battery backup


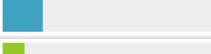
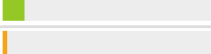
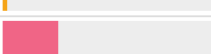

Value	Percent		Count
Renewable energy (solar panels, etc.)	45.2%		71
Efficient heating/cooling system	27.4%		43
Efficient water heater	22.3%		35
Efficient appliances (e.g. washer, dryer, refrigerator)	12.1%		19
New windows	22.3%		35
New doors	10.8%		17
Sealing air leaks in walls, windows, etc.	9.6%		15
Wall, roof and/or floor insulation	12.1%		19
Other - Write In	9.6%		15
None	14.7%		23
Totals			157

### If you haven't made energy upgrades to your home, why not?

By far, the reason most survey respondents have not made EE upgrades to their home is because of expense.

Write-in responses included:

- House was new and already efficient / upgrades were already done when purchased
- Trees prevent solar feasibility
- Expensive / lack of inclusive programs to help

Value	Percent		Count
Too expensive	53.5%		61
Not practical for my house	19.3%		22
I rent and can't make upgrades	10.5%		12
I don't know how to get started	1.8%		2
Other - Write In	26.3%		30
Totals			114

## Water Efficiency Strategies

### If any, which water efficiency upgrades have you already made to your home?

The majority of survey respondents said that they had already upgraded to low-flow water fixtures. This was followed closely by installing a water-efficient irrigation system and drought-tolerant landscaping.



Write-in responses included:

- Rain water storage
- Water conservation (taking fewer showers)
- Holding tank for a well
- “Instant” hot water system
- Native plants / no lawn

Value	Percent	Count
Low-flow toilets/showers/sinks	69.3%	106
Water-efficient irrigation system (such as a drip system)	56.2%	86
Using rain water or gray water to water plants	22.2%	34
Replacing water-intensive plants with drought-tolerant landscaping	49.7%	76
Other - Write In	10.5%	16
None	11.8%	18
Totals		153

### Which water efficiency upgrades would you most like to make to your home?

Many survey respondents said that they would like to start using rain water/gray water for landscape irrigation.

Write-in responses included:

- Rain water capture / use
- Gray water use for toilets/washer
- Tankless water heater
- Having landscaping taken care of by HOA






Value	Percent	Count
Low flow toilets/showers/sinks	15.1%	22
Water-efficient irrigation system (such as a drip system)	22.6%	33
Using rain water or gray water to water plants	45.2%	66
Replacing water-intensive plants with drought-tolerant landscaping	19.2%	28
Other - Write In	8.9%	13
None	21.9%	32
Totals		146

### If you haven't made water efficiency upgrades to your home, why not?

Many respondents said that water upgrades were too expensive, but the largest percentage (37.7%) of respondents chose to write in an answer.

Write-in responses included:








- I've already made upgrades / I'm in the process of upgrading
- It's not a priority
- Not financially feasible
- It's a new home that's already efficient
- We don't use much water
- Too busy
- There's no point if Southern CA is going to take our water

Value	Percent		Count
Too expensive	31.1%		33
Not practical for my house	19.8%		21
I rent and can't make upgrades	11.3%		12
I don't know how to get started	10.4%		11
Other - Write In	37.7%		40
Totals			106

### Current Programs

**The County has many programs/plans in progress or planned for that support sustainability. Please mark those that you've heard about or reviewed.**

The majority of survey respondents have heard about Pioneer Community Energy or the One Big Bin program, but very few knew about the Government Center Master Plan or the Middle Fork Hydroelectric Project.

Value	Percent		Count
Pioneer Community Energy	65.4%		83
One Big Bin	55.9%		71
Placer Legacy	47.2%		60
Middle Fork Hydroelectric Project	27.6%		35
mPower	34.7%		44
Placer County Conservation Plan	38.6%		49
Government Center Master Plan	14.2%		18
Totals			127

## Final Comments / Ideas

Other comments/ideas associated with sustainability in Placer County are summarized below.

<b>Waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need better waste/recycling programs</li> </ul>
<b>Open space / Ag</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charge developers/property owners more for removing trees</li> <li>• Outlaw fertilizers/non-native plants</li> <li>• Maintain green space / farmland</li> <li>• Build homes closer to businesses</li> <li>• Infill</li> </ul>
<b>Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce sprawl</li> <li>• Don't promote growth</li> <li>• Don't change master plans – planning commission should listen to residents</li> <li>• Support multifamily housing near services/transit</li> <li>• Fund home upgrades</li> </ul>
<b>General Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a green county</li> <li>• Committed to addressing climate change</li> </ul>
<b>General Concerns</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCSP is not sustainable</li> <li>• Make PCSP/sustainability practices more visible/transparent</li> <li>• No more regulations/taxes</li> <li>• Should tailor measures to areas (specifically Donner Summit)</li> <li>• Air quality</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More frequent (local and long distance)</li> <li>• Better schedules</li> <li>• More bike lanes</li> <li>• Fix traffic issues               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hwy 65 pollution</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Create rebates for EV's</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need a more reliable water source/storage</li> </ul>
<b>Energy Efficiency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make resources for seniors (fixed incomes)</li> <li>• Promote EE</li> </ul>
<b>Renewable Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placer County should install solar wherever possible</li> </ul>
<b>Adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need evacuation plans</li> <li>• Wildfires               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mitigation</li> <li>○ Prevention instead of reaction</li> <li>○ Alert system – create or publicize what we use</li> </ul> </li> </ul>